

Appl. No. 10/811,671
Atty. Docket No. 8768MD
Amdt. dated April 27, 2005
Reply to Office Action of January 27, 2005
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article, said absorbent article comprising an elastic component, said elastic component comprising a first substrate having an elastomeric composition disposed thereon in a predetermined geometric pattern such that said elastomeric composition partially penetrates said first substrate and wherein said elastic component is thereby formed and joined to the first substrate in a single step continuous process.
2. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 1 wherein said elastic component has an elasticity of between about 5 N/m and about 400 N/m.
3. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 2 wherein said elasticity is between about 25 N/m and about 300 N/m.
4. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 3 wherein said elasticity is between about 75 N/m and about 300 N/m.
5. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 1 wherein said elastic component is selected from the group consisting of a topsheet, a backsheet, an ear, a side panel, a waist member, a leg elastomeric member, a chassis member, a fastener and combinations thereof.
6. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 1 wherein said predetermined geometric pattern is selected from the group consisting of continuous patterns and intermittent patterns.
7. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 1 wherein said pattern comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of rectilinear stripes, curvilinear stripes, spirals, dots, geometric figures and combinations thereof.
8. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 7 wherein said element has a width dimension of at least about 0.2 mm.

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9. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 7 wherein said element has a thickness dimension of at least about 0.1 mm.
10. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 10 wherein said pattern has a spacing between said elements and said spacing is selected from the group consisting of uniform spacing and non-uniform spacing.
11. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 7 wherein said pattern comprises at least two differing individual elements.
12. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 11 wherein said individual elements differ in a property selected from the group consisting of differing width dimensions between said individual elements, differing thickness dimensions between said individual elements, differing spacing between said individual elements, differing mechanical properties between said individual elements, differing visual appearance and differing permeability between said individual elements.
13. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article according to Claim 11 wherein said differing individual elements at least partially overlap.
14. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 11 wherein at least a portion of said differing individual elements are non-parallel with respect to each other.
15. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 5 wherein said elastic component comprises at least one additional elastomeric composition disposed on said substrate.
16. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 15 wherein said elastic component comprises first and second elastomeric compositions and said second composition is disposed on said substrate in a pattern different than said first composition.
17. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 5 wherein said absorbent article comprises at least two differing elastic components.

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18. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 17 wherein elastomeric composition is disposed on at least one of said differing elastic components in a pattern that differs from the other of said components.
19. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 17 wherein a different elastomeric composition is disposed on at least one of said differing elastic components.
20. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 5 wherein said elastic component comprises an ear, said ear and said pattern comprises at least two differing elements.
21. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 20 wherein at said least two of said differing elements are disposed at an angle with respect to each other.
22. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 20 wherein said two differing elements differ in elastic properties.
23. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 1 wherein said substrate is selected from the group consisting of nonwoven fibrous webs and woven fibrous webs.
24. (Currently Amended) An absorbent ~~composite~~ article according to Claim 23 where said fibers comprise a polyolefin material.
25. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 1 wherein said elastic component has been incrementally stretched.
26. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 1 wherein said elastic component further comprises a second substrate joined to said first substrate to form a laminate, wherein said elastomeric composition is disposed between said first and second substrates.
27. (Original) An absorbent article according to Claim 26 wherein said second substrate comprises a film.